

March 19, 2009
Committee on Judiciary

Committee Bill No. 5883: An Act Concerning The Unlicensed Practice of Massage Therapy

Submitted by: Shirley Cooper, Granby

I am Shirley Cooper, licensed massage therapist from Granby. I have been in practice for over 24 years and have been involved with the legislative process relating to massage since the initial work began on our licensing law.

I am pleased to support the additions to the law that Bill No. 5883 will bring as it is one more step taken to protect the public from untrained individuals performing massage and illegal activity happening under the guise of massage therapy.

I would offer a suggestion to this language. As written it addresses subsection (a) and (e) of Section 20-206b of the general statute. It should also be applicable to Section 3 subsection (b) of Public Act 07-35 regarding the advertising of massage.

Part of the concern that towns have are the businesses that are opening under the guise of massage. The quiet town of Cheshire is a prime example. The activity that was operating out of a 'Spa' there was deplorable. It was advertised as massage. As well currently there is no penalty for a business owner that knowingly hires an unlicensed person to perform massage. This penalty and fine should be applicable to the advertisement of massage as well as to the licensing of massage therapists. It will help in holding accountable those business owners that knowingly hire unlicensed personnel in their practices.

I encourage you to support this Bill No. 5883 and would like to see the language include Section 3 of Public Act 07-35(b). Thank you for your time.